

REMARKS

This Reply and Amendment is intended to be completely responsive to the final Office Action dated February 24, 2004 and the Advisory Action dated June 4, 2004. Claims 1-4, 6-37 and 39-63 are pending in this Application. Claims 1-4, 6-37 and 39-63 stand rejected. The Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 18, 34 and 51.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Detailed Action, the Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 18, 34 and 51 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of certain combinations of U.S. Patent No. 4,637,666 issued to Worrell et al. ("Worrell et al."), U.S. Patent No. 5,904,328 issued to Leveridge et al. ("Leveridge et al."), U.S. Patent No. 4,852,500 issued to Ryburg et al. ("Ryburg et al."), and U.S. Patent No. 6,099,093 issued to Spence ("Spence").

Worrell et al. describes a "desk" having a "computer keyboard 38" that is "connected to the underside of the desk by conventional vertical swing pivot mechanism 40 for swinging movement" (see col. 4, lines 27-30). Worrell et al. also describes that a "carriage 44 itself" is "cantilever mounted on the desk top 14" (see col. 4, lines 42-43).

Ryberg et al. describes a "computer implement work area" having a mobile work surface 26" that "mounts a peripheral equipment rail trolley 28 having a peripheral platform 28A" and an "accessory trolley 32 and a peripheral platform 36 are also mounted to the work surface" and a "second mobile work surface 34 is also mounted at one end" (see col. 4, lines 15).

Leveridge et al. describes an "articulating computer monitor" that "includes a base 16 designed to rest on a horizontal surface such as the top of a computer user's desk" (see col. 2, lines 63-65).

Spence describes a "two user computer desk" having a "keyboard support assembly 10" with a "keyboard tray 16 and [a] keyboard tray guide 14 [that] are slidably connected by drawer runner means 28" to "allow reversible extension of the keyboard tray 16 toward the user" such that "keyboard tray 16 extends beyond the front edge of the desktop 4" (see Col. 3,

lines 18-20, 39-41 and 47-50).

Independent Claims 1 and 51 (as amended) recite a “movable support system.” Independent Claims 1 and 51 comprise, in combination with other elements, a “mounting structure,” a “track system” and a “display support assembly” that is “cantilevered a sufficient distance away from the mounting structure” so that the “display device may be used in a plurality of positions including (a) a first position where the display device faces toward the track system, (b) a second position where the display device is transverse to the track system, and (c) a third position where the display device faces away from the track system.”

Independent Claim 18 (as amended) recites an “apparatus providing a movable support system” comprising, in combination with other elements, a “mounting structure,” a “track system” and a “display support assembly” that is “cantilevered a sufficient distance away from the mounting structure” so that “each of the display panels may be used in a plurality of positions including (a) a first position where the display panels face toward the track system, (b) a second position where the display panels are transverse to the track system, and (c) a third position where the display panels face away from the track system.”

Independent Claim 34 (as amended) recites a “movable support system” comprising, in combination with other elements, a “mounting structure,” a “track system” and a “display support assembly” that is “cantilevered away from the mounting structure and projecting beyond the track into the work space” so that the “display device may be used in a plurality of positions including (a) a first position where the display device faces toward the track system, (b) a second position where the display device is transverse to the track system, and (c) a third position where the display device faces away from the track system.”

The “movable support system” recited in independent Claims 1, 34 and 51 and the “apparatus” recited in independent Claim 18 are not disclosed, taught or suggested by Worrell et al., alone or in any proper combination with Spence, Ryberg et al. and/or Leveridge et al.

The suggestion to make the cited combination of Worrell et al., with Ryberg et al. and Spence (Claims 1 and 34) and/or Leveridge et al. (Claims 18 and 51), has been taken from the

Applicants' own disclosure (using hindsight), which is improper. See M.P.E.P. § 2145. Furthermore, to transform the "desk" of Worrell et al., alone or in any proper combination with the "two user computer desk" of Spence, the "computer implement work area" of Ryberg et al. and/or the "articulating computer monitor" of Leveridge et al., into a "movable support system" as recited in independent Claims 1, 34 and 51 or an "apparatus" as recited in independent Claim 18 would require still further modification, and such modification is taught only by the Applicants' own disclosure.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter recited in independent Claims 1, 18, 34 and 51 (as amended), considered as a whole, would not have been obvious based on the "desk" of Worrell et al., alone or in any proper combination with the "two user computer desk" of Spence, the "computer implement work area" of Ryberg et al. and/or the "articulating computer monitor" of Leveridge et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 18, 34 and 51 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Dependent Claims 2-4 and 6-17, which depend from independent Claim 1, are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Dependent Claims 19-33 and 57, which depend from independent Claim 18, are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Dependent Claims 35-37 and 39-50, which depend from independent Claim 34, are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Dependent Claims 52-56 and 58, which depend from independent Claim 51, are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). See 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 4.

The Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-4 and 6-17; 18-33 and 57; 34-37 and 39-50; and 51-56 and 58.

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The Applicants believe that each and every outstanding rejection to the pending claims has been overcome, and the Application is in condition for allowance. Independent Claims 1, 18, 34 and 51 have been amended to recite a combination of subject matter that is patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of the cited references. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-4, 6-37 and 39-63.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date JUNE 23, 2004

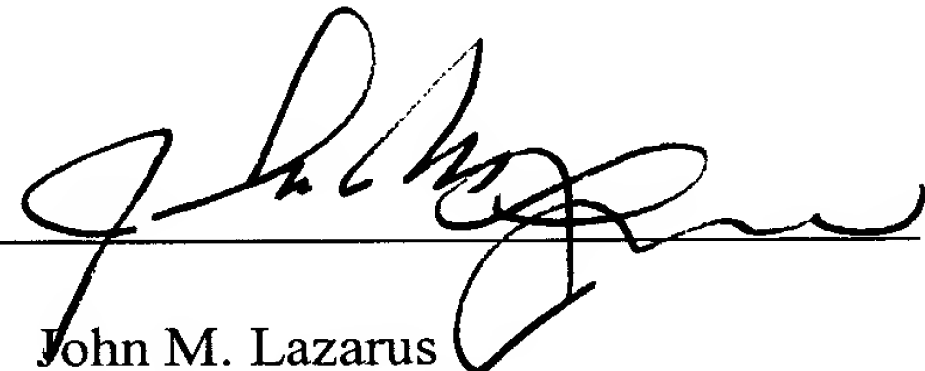
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